

Message Text

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES

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E. O. 11652 N/ A

TAGS: TPHY, AR

SUBJ: GALAXY PROJECT

REF: STATE 63913

DEPARTMENT HAS NOW RECEIVED LETTER FROM NSF REQUESTING ITS ASSISTANCE IN OBTAINING GOA AUTHORIZATION FOR BALLOON LAUNCHES FROM ARGENTINE TERRITORY THIS COMING FALL. UNLESS IT HAS OBJECTIONS, EMBASSY IS REQUESTED TO SEEK SUCH AUTHORIZATION ON THE BASIS OF THE PROPOSAL OUTLINED BELOW.

PROPOSED QUOTE GALAXIA 73 UNQUOTE SCIENTIFIC
BALLOON PROGRAM

A. PROGRAM CONDUCT

1. SCIENTIFIC BALLOON FLIGHTS:

FLIGHT REQUESTS HAVE BEEN RECEIVED FROM BOTH US AND EUROPEAN SCIENTIFIC GROUPS FOR SCIENTIFIC BALLON FLIGHTS FROM THE SOUTHERN HEMISPHERE. A CONDENSED SUMMARY (ATTACHMENT A) GIVES THE NEEDS OF THE RESEARCH GROUPS ACTIVELY INTERESTED IN PARTICIPATING IN THE

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GALAXIA-73 PROGRAM. TWELVE (12) BALLOON FLIGHTS ARE PLANNED. OF THESE, TWO (2) WILL BE ASSIGNED TO ARGENTINE INVESTIGATORS. THE TWO (2) BALLOONS AND ASSOCIATED FLIGHT SERVICES SUCH AS TELEMETRY, TRACKING AND RECOVERY WILL BE PROVIDED AT NO COST TO THE ARGENTINE SCIENTIST SELECTED BY CNIE. THE ARGENTINE SCIENTIST, WOULD, OF COURSE, PROVIDE THE SCIENTIST PAYLOADS. THE BALLOONS WOULD BE A 5.06 X 10 6 FT 3 AND A 3.0 X 10 6 FT 3 CAPABLE OF CARRYING A PAYLOAD OF 1000 POUNDS TO AN ALTITUDE OF 121,500 FEET AND 500 POUON THE R & D AND PROPOSALS OF THEIR HOST ORGANIZATIONS IN THE ENERGY FIELD.

4. BEGIN FYI: WE CURRENTLY PLAN TO EXPLORE OPPORTUNITIES FOR MULTILATERAL R & D COOPERATION DURING UPCOMING OECD MEETINGS. WE ARE NOT, HOWEVER, RULING OUT BILATERAL COOPERATION. BOTH WILL PROBABLY BE USEFUL IN PROVIDING US THE RANGE OF COVERAGE WE WILL REQUIRE. ROGERS UNQUOTE ROGERS

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